

CONFIDENTIAL

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

DOCUMENT_ID: 37466602
 INQNO: DOC19D 00186515
 DOCNO: TEL 001940 91
 PRODUCER: BRAZZAVILLE
 SOURCE: STATE
 DOCTYPE: IN
 DOR: 19910621
 TOR: 080850
 DOCPREC: R
 ORIGDATE: 199106211201
 MHFNO: 91 4573997
 DOCCLASS: C

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
 DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
 RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
 IN THIS DOCUMENT

HEADER
 RR RUEAIIB
 ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
 MSI1136
 RR RUEHC
 DE RUEHBZ #1940 1721201
 ZNY CCCCC ZZH
 R 211201Z JUN 91
 FM AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8963
 BT

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
 Retain class'n
 Declassify Change/classify to _____
 with concurrence of _____
 EO 12958, 25X after _____
 IPS/CR/IR by _____ Date: 8/30/0X

CONTROLS
 C O N F I D E N T I A L BRAZZAVILLE 01940
 FOR INR/B AND AF/C

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TEXT
 TAGS: PINR, CF
 SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC REPORT - JEAN-MARTIN MBEMBA,
 - MINISTER OF JUSTICE, KEEPER OF THE SEALS,
 - IN CHARGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM

FOR COORDINATION WITH ed State

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
 DATE 2001 2007

1. (U) MBEMBA WAS APPOINTED TRANSITION GOVERNMENT PRIME
 MINISTER BY ANDRE MILONGO JUNE 15. A LAWYER BY
 PROFESSION, MBEMBA IS SECRETARY GENERAL AND EFFECTIVE
 LEADER OF THE "UNION FOR PROGRESS" (UP) PARTY SINCE IT
 WAS CREATED IN LATE 1990.

2. (U) MBEMBA WAS BORN AUGUST 13, 1940 IN BRAZZAVILLE.
 HE DID PRIMARY SCHOOL AND MOST OF HIS SECONDARY SCHOOL
 EDUCATION IN BRAZZAVILLE, COMPLETING SECONDARY SCHOOL IN
 NANCY, FRANCE IN 1963. HE BEGAN LAW STUDIES IN NANCY IN
 1964, OBTAINING A LAW DEGREE IN 1968. HE CONTINUED HIS
 STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS THROUGH 1973,
 ALTHOUGH THE ONLY FURTHER UNIVERSITY DEGREE OBTAINED WAS
 A "HIGHER EDUCATION DIPLOMA" (DIPLOME D'ETUDES
 SUPERIEURES) IN POLITICAL SCIENCE IN 1970. HE WAS
 ADMITTED TO THE PARIS BAR IN 1969, OBTAINING A DEGREE IN
 1970 FROM THE PARIS "INSTITUT DU BARREAU". AFTER
 PRACTICING LAW IN FRANCE, MBEMBA BECAME A PRACTICING

CONFIDENTIAL

LAWYER IN BRAZZAVILLE IN 1975. IN 1987, HE WAS ELECTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL AFRICA UNION OF LAWYERS.

3. (U) ACCORDING TO HIS OWN BIOGRAPHY, MBEMBA WAS INVOLVED IN SEVERAL LEGAL CASES OF PARTICULAR SENSITIVITY IN CONGO'S HISTORY, INCLUDING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT NGOUABI, AND BOMB ATTACKS AGAINST THE BRAZZAVILLE AIRPORT AND "STAR CINEMA" IN 1986. MBEMBA ALSO STATES THAT HE HAD INVOLVEMENT IN THE TRIAL OF **KLAUS BARBIE** IN LYON (1987), ABDOULAYE WADE IN DAKAR (1988), AND YONDO BLACK IN YAOUNDE (1990). MBEMBA HAS NOT HELD ANY PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT POSITION.

4. (C) MBEMBA HAS LONG BEEN KNOWN AS ONE OF CONGO'S LEADING JURISTS. DURING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE, HIS LEGAL OPINIONS REGARDING VARIOUS MATTERS WERE NOT ALWAYS ACCEPTED, BUT HE WAS ALWAYS ACCORDED A RESPECTFUL HEARING. UNLIKE MANY OF CONGO'S CURRENT POLITICAL LEADERS, HE IS NOT "TAINTED" AS A PAST LEADER OF THE CONGO LABOR PARTY (PCT); HOWEVER, HE IS WIDELY PERCEIVED AS BEING A PROMINENT PART OF THE "OLD SCHOOL" OF CONGO POLITICS. NEITHER HE NOR HIS PARTY LEADERS HAVE SPOKEN MUCH ABOUT A RANGE OF CURRENT PROBLEMS FACING THE CONGO, INCLUDING THE ECONOMY, PREFERRING TO STAY WITHIN THEIR AREA OF EXPERTISE OF LEGAL ISSUES.

5. (LOU) ONE OF MBEMBA'S PARENTS IS FROM BRAZZAVILLE'S POOL REGION, THE OTHER FROM THE MORE NORTHERN PLATEAUX. WITH ITS OWN BIRTH IN BRAZZAVILLE, MBEMBA IS USUALLY KNOWN AS BEING FROM THE POOL; HOWEVER, HE HAS MADE SOME RECENT STATEMENTS IMPLYING A CLAIM ON THE PLATEAUX AS HOME, PERHAPS TO BALANCE THE IMPRESSION OF POOL DOMINATION OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION.

6. (U) MBEMBA WAS MARRIED IN 1971 IN FRANCE. HE IS THE FATHER OF 8 CHILDREN. PHILLIPS

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL